



LGBTQIA+ Rainbow Commission Minutes

Date: Thursday, August 19, 2021

Time: 6:30 PM -8:30 PM

Location: Conducted by Remote Participation

Notice to the Public on meeting privacy In the interests of preventing abuse of videoconferencing technology (i.e. Zoom Bombing) all participants, including members of the public, wishing to engage via the Zoom App must register for each meeting and will notice multi-step authentication protocols. Please allow additional time to join the meeting. Further, members of the public who wish to participate without providing their name may still do so by registering to receive the meeting info and using the telephone dial-in information provided.

Please read Governor Baker's Executive Order Suspending Certain Provision of Open Meeting Law for more information regarding virtual public hearings and meetings: <https://www.mass.gov/doc/open-meeting-law-order-march-12-2020/download>

Attendees: Commissioners: Lisa Krinsky (Co-Chair), Andy Robinson (Co-Chair), Keith March Mistler, Brooks Harrelson, Susan Ryan-Vollmar, Kari Sasportas, Brooks Harrelson

Liaisons: Jillian Harvey, Director of Diversity Equity, and Inclusion; Christina Coleman, DEI Admin; Len Diggins, Select Board; Marci Shapiro-Ide, Council on Aging

Minutes

Meeting called to order at 6:30pm. Brooks Harrelson assigned as minute-taker.

1. Remote participation statement and guidelines
2. Welcome and introductions
3. Consent Agenda
 - a. SRV moved to approve consent agenda, KMM seconds, passed unanimously.
 - b. July meeting minutes
 - i. 2. Correspondence received
 - ii. 7/23– Robbins Library response to inquiry about Rob Lorino replacement. Will let us know as soon as they identify the new liaison.

- iii. 7/23– LexPride shared updated flyer for Celebrating LGBTQ+ Seniors program with RC logo as cosponsor.
 - iv. 7/28– Request to co-host “Re-Imagine Pride Ball” on Nov 13 as One Path Community Boston officially announces that their organization plans to carry on the Boston’s Pride Festival.
 - v. 8/6– Request to promote casting call for Boston, MA LGBTQ+Couples in a Holiday Project, paying \$1500 per person.
 - vi. 8/9– Offer from Graviton Cross-Fit to have a table for RC at their upcoming fundraiser for OUT Foundation, supporting safe access to fitness for LGBTQ+ individuals. Request to promote event to the community.
4. Meeting in a Box – Erin Moriarty, Assistant Director, Arlington Planning Dept
- a. Talking about Housing Plan – in the Community Engagement phase. One option is a "meeting in a box" – packet, about 15 pp, - (how to facilitate, local participants, neighbors, Notes of discussion, sequence of questions for meeting, affordability, seniors, locations, etc. space for notes, etc. Notes returned to planning dept.)
 - b. Next forum 9/14 6:30-8 pm with presentation info from housing consultants. Ask – ask commissioners to host meetings, ask friends and neighbors, etc. Ask RC to host a meeting in a box.
 - c. QUESTION: does RC want to host a meeting in a box?
 - d. SRV moved for RC to host, KS second. Passed unanimously.
 - e. 2 roles: facilitating: tbd Notes: KS Attending/Promoting: SRV, AR will check in with HN and MG
5. Liaison Updates
- a. Council on Aging: MSI – weekly groups for LGBTQ+ seniors, this week 7 in person 2 online. 2-week hiatus for vacation, coordinating with LexPride for in-person on 9/21. Planning Sage Table in person 11/18, asks RC support and co-sponsorship. Dinner and Karaoke, ask \$300 support, will be inter-generational. Moved: Co-sponsor 11/18 Sage Table and fund up to \$300 – Moved: SRV Second: BH ,Unanimously passed.
 - b. Diversity Equity and Inclusion (DEI): JH – did Week-long ADA training, Community Conversation series wrapped up last week, Active Bystander Training with True Story Theater, new experiment on engagement in Community Conversations. Submitted the MEI for the end of July, expect 6-8 more points, met with Mike Cunningham re: focus for next year.
 - c. Library: MSI Reached out about re-starting movie series, said new hire Julia starting next week will restart.
 - d. Police Department: Police Oversight Committee – Share our expertise about the LGBTQIA+ community and its relationship with police and if we think civilian oversight of police is a good idea and/or how it might work. – chief not here – police oversight committee – SRV nearly done with interim report, reports research on accountability, oversight, expert reports from local and national experts. (NACOLE – National Association for Civilian Oversight of Law Enforcement.) Working on mechanisms for reporting and feedback to commissions and public. Will be reported in September meeting. Meetings now posted on YouTube.
 - e. Select Board: Len Diggins – town got \$33M relief funds, having community discussion about that.

6. Working Group Updates and Membership
 - a. Community Engagement & Upcoming Events
 - i. Share table with AHRC at Farmer's Market Sept 8 and Oct 20, from 2 - 6pm – SRV 9/8 2-4, 10/20 2-4, AR 4-6 both days. Move: support Farmers Market with table: SRV moved, second KS passed unanimously.
 - ii. OUTAthletics Arlington, MA Aug 28, 6 - 8pm – AR/BH to try to find a volunteer. LD might. AR probable. Moved: Support: BH moved second SRV passed unanimously
 - iii. Starlight Square Funding Request – Sept 11 Event "Night of Queer Comedy and Music, Together Under the Stars" LGBTQ+ event. 6-8 pm Request support of \$250 Moved BH second SRV passed unanimously
 - iv. Request to co-host "Re-Imagine Pride Ball" on Nov 13 as One Path Community Boston officially announces that their organization plans to carry on the Boston's Pride Festival. – discussion centered on lack of knowledge of organization, too new to support.
 - v. New table skirt – Moved: approve up to \$350 for table skirts SRV Second: KMM approved unanimously.
 - b. Communications
 - i. KMM/SRV – Proposing article for Boston Spirit. KMM August/September/Fall edition newsletter in work.
 - c. Public Education
 - i. KMM – No update this meeting.
 - d. Town Systems & Policies
 - i. HRC/MEI update – above in DEI
7. Commission Membership/Recruitment/Infrastructure
 - a. SR-V wrote blurb for recruitment, LD and JH looking at 18+ requirement, checking town/warrant requirements
 - b. Infrastructure – LK – seek to find time to do some task planning for the year. AR will do Doodle to find 4 hr time slot. KS volunteered to keep spreadsheet tracking on budget.
8. Public Engagement and Open Commentary - no public attended.
9. Close and Next Meeting: **Note: 4th Week of September on Thursday, Sep 23, 2021 (not September 16th due to Yom Kippur holiday)**

8:30pm: SRV moved to adjourn meeting, KS seconds, meeting adjourned.

Next meeting: September 23, 2021, 6:30 pm, Remote Participation

Anyone needing accessibility information or other assistance in order to attend this meeting should contact Jillian Harvey, jharvey@town.arlington.ma.us. This meeting is open to all interested individuals.